



January 11, 2011

AARP Montana
30 W. 14th Street
Suite 301
Helena, MT 59601

T 1-866-295-7278
F 406-441-2225
www.aarp.org/mt

TO: Members of the Senate Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee
FROM: Betty Beverly, AARP Montana
RE: Support of SB 7

Chairman Priest and members of the Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee for the record, I am Betty Beverly a volunteer advocate for AARP Montana, an organization with over 150,000 members in this state. AARP supports SB 7 because it will allow Medicaid applications to be processed in an efficient manner.

Over the years I have helped seniors who have exhausted resources sign up for Medicaid to pay for nursing home expenses or home care. When someone is in need of nursing home level of care often the situation is critical and signing up for Medicaid in a timely manner is important. In the last year we have heard from case managers that signing up for Medicaid has been a frustrating, slow process. At times getting home care services to a person can keep them from entering a nursing home or help them to transition back home. Delay can cost Medicaid more if a person's health has become more complicated due to the delay. This bill should help improve the process and get people services when needed.

We believe that the online system upgrade will greatly benefit seniors and urge you to support SB 7.

EXHIBIT NO. 3
DATE 1.11.13
BILL NO. SB 7
SH